

the RARS

Exciter

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society



Worldwide Friendship

June 2005, Number 410



Photos Gary KN4AQ

The Exciter

The *Exciter* is the monthly newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It is available in both printed and electronic form. The printed version is mailed to members just before each club meeting. The electronic form, in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, is e-mailed about a week earlier.

We solicit both articles and advertising. The deadline for submissions is first Friday of the month or Friday after the monthly meeting. Contact the Editor.

The views contained in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors, and are not necessarily the views of the Editor, or the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the Amateur Radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, we incorporated a new RARS, and obtained 501(c)(3) Non-Profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friend-ship through Amateur Radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic need; to educate members in radio technique; and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining Amateur Radio licenses.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18.00 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5.00 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12.00 per year. Dues for non-licensed Associate members are \$9.00 per year.

Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer, or the RARS web site (www.rars.org).

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RARS Repeaters in Raleigh:
145.13 (82.5 PL)
146.64
224.64 (Temporarily off the air)
444.525 (82.5 PL)

WEB SITE www.rars.org



PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

See you next month

The Exciter goes to the printer the first Monday after the general meeting. Electronic mailing is the same week. Printing and mailing may vary.

RALEIGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY MEETINGS

Date: *Every first Tuesday of the Month*
Location: *Forest Hills Baptist Church, at Dixie Trail and Clark Avenue, in Raleigh*
Time: *7:30pm. Folks start showing up a bit before 7 to chat, brag and eat donuts.*

VE Testing: The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August and November RARS meetings, at the RARSfest in April, the Cary Swapfest in July and the JARSfest in November, and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID, the original and a copy of your current license, plus any CSCEs you have for credit. Please refer to www.rars.org for more information.

TECHNICAL & TRADERS NET– Saturday evenings on 146.64 after the 8:00pm RARS net

Announcements

NEXT RARS MEETING:
Tuesday, June 7, 2005 7:30 pm
Telegraphy– Jeff AC4ZO

Field Day June 25-26.
Band Captains and participants are
needed, please contact Neil
N4HAF@nc.rr.com

RARS DINNER

Come join us on the **2nd** Tuesday of each month. We are currently meeting in the private dining room at the Golden Corral, 6129 Glenwood Avenue. People start arriving around 6:30pm., and things usually wind down by 8pm or so. You can come whenever it's convenient for you. This gathering is open to anyone, RARS and non-RARS members, adults and children alike. Hope to see you there.

Recently a survey was given at the RARS meeting and one question was; "why is the board meeting notes so late in the Exciter?" Answer, "The notes have to be approved at the NEXT monthly board meeting before being published." The notes are always one month behind.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

FIRECRACKER 50/100K Cary, NC
Monday July 4th. Need 12 hams for 7
hours, over by 2pm. Bob
K1RCB@arrl.net

MS-150 Sat-Sun September 10-11.
40 hams are needed. Please make
your motel reservations NOW. Need
40 hams for 2 days.
Check website for accommodations
[http://nationalmssociety.org/nct/](http://nationalmssociety.org/nct/home/)
home/
CONTACT:
Bruce N8UTY <n8uty@arrl.net>, to
volunteer.

HAMFEST CALENDAR

May 28	Durham, NC
June 11	Winston-Salem, NC
June 25-26	FIELD DAY
July 2	Salisbury, NC
July 16	Cary, NC
July 23	Waynesville, NC
August 13	Fayetteville, NC
September 3-4	Shelby, NC
October 9*	Maysville, NC



Courtesy of the SERA Repeater Journal
*Date is not confirmed

LOOKing Back 30 Years

Taken from the June 1975 Exciter

The hamfest in April (1975) had an attendance of 803 persons. A call to action: Amateur Radio as you know it is under attack. Amateur Radio must get organized. Instead of the present loose "affiliation" with our national organization, every area should have an ARRL "chapter". There should still be special interest groups, such as DX, FM, RTTY, etc. But every city and town should have a central organization as part of our national organization. This would make the presence of our organization more visible on the local level. It would draw more into feeling they are part of our league.



LOOKing Back 10 Years

Taken from the June 1995 Exciter

The Exciter, the newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society (RARS) was rated "Excellent" in the 1994 national radio club newsletter contest of the Amateur Radio News Service (ARNS). "Excellent" is the highest rating offered in the ARNS judging.



NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome the following new members to RARS. Thank you for considering us for your amateur radio club.

Michael W3IJD
Paul N4YGU

NET REPORTS FOR APRIL 2005

8:00pm DAILY: RARS Evening Net

Participants 440
Traffic 23/25
Time 840 minutes
Sessions 30

8:30pm SAT: Tech & Traders Net 9:00pm MON: SWL/SIG

Participants 45
Traffic 0/0
Time 390 Minutes
Sessions 9

JUNE MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Bob	K1RCB	06/01
Dawn	KD4EVV	06/03
Charles	KI4DCR	06/03
Gwen	KF4EUT	06/05
Shelby	NC4SH	06/06
Denyse	K4DAW	06/07
Jon	KG4ZVT	06/08
Kelly	AE4FG	06/08
Tim	W4TIM	06/09
Tim	WB4BAH	06/11
Nancy	KE4PPW	06/13
Jack	KF4EZT	06/17
Wayne	KD4SLQ	06/19
Bud	KG4IJQ	06/19
Dick	W8HYD	06/20
William	W4AK	06/21
Bobbie	KD4ZVW	06/22
Chuck	KI4BZJ	06/22
Kelly	KD4EWG	06/24
Marian	K1MRB	06/24
Laurie	KF4IUW	06/27
Eric	KG4CXW	06/30

Minutes of the RARS Board Meeting for March 2005

The Board of Directors meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was conducted on March 15, 2005 at the Forest Hills Baptist Church located on Dixie Trail.

Attendance Board – Andy Peterson, NI4S, Dick Bitner, W8HYD, Hank Montgomery, K4HM, Selene Montgomery, KG4RMT, Denyse Walter, K4DAW, Jim Walter, K4FIJ, Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, Mary Holtschneider, KG4OQA, Dick Orander, KD4ISC. Others – Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL.

President Andy Peterson, NI4S, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

On a motion from Dick W8HYD and second by Denyse K4DAW, the February Board meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Officers' Reports

Andy NI4S read the Treasurer's report that was provided by Greg Seamster, KE4PAX.

Greg KE4PAX provided the Treasurer's report and advised there are 259 club members.

Dick W8HYD provided the Vice President's report.

* The April meeting program will be given by Bob Conder, K4RLC, on the geo-hazards of the Carolinas. Time will also be allotted for hamfest promotion and for a field day report.

* Dick is still trying to catch up with Jeff Wittich, AC4ZO to finalize the paperwork required to use the RTP Nortel facilities for future radio classes. Announcements concerning classes will be made as soon as the calendar is known.

* Unclaimed award certificates from last month's meeting will be mailed to recipients.

Committee Reports

Exciter – Denyse K4DAW reported the April Exciter will be out next week for mailing.

Net Manager – Mary KG4OQA reported nets are going well. Net control stations are still needed. Advise anyone interested to contact her.

Webmaster – Andy reported that Tim Nicholson, W4NOT, has resigned as the RARS webmaster. Further discussion was held for new business.

Hamfest – Hank K4HM advised the Catawba Hamfest is being held on the Saturday before RARSfest this year. This is not thought to be too much of a problem due to the geographical distance between our two events. He then reported the hamfest flyers are in the mail. Approximately half of the flyers were completed during the recent labeling party. The 'Fuquay Team' completed the remainder. Approximately \$350 was saved by labeling the flyers ourselves. We should be able to save more next year with the lessons learned from this year's activity. The hamfest prizes have been coordinated with HRO. Chuck, K4HF, reported on his discussions with KJI Electronics. They are a full line dealer from New Jersey and will be attending this year's RARSfest. Hank reported on discussions with MFJ and their consideration of attending our hamfest. The next hamfest committee meeting will be on the last Monday of this month.

Field Day – it was announced that Neal Fisher, N4HAF, had sent out an email recruiting band captains.

Public Service – an announcement was made for Bob Breyer, K1RCB, advising help was still needed for the April 9 MS Walk in RTP, the May Motorcycle Charity Ride and the July 4 Firecracker Bicycle events.

ARRL Liaison – Chuck K4HF advised there have been no restructuring updates. He also requested that we 'talk up' the QSL card checking and award validation that will be available at RARSfest.

Unfinished Business

After much discussion over the possibilities of pursuing other printers for the Exciter, it was decided our current printing and delivery services cannot be beat. It was the consensus of those present that the matter should be considered closed.

New Business

Members were reminded that work on the club's budget would begin at next month's meeting.

Tim Nicholson, W4NOT, has submitted his resignation as webmaster effective April 1. Discussion followed on how to fill this important position. There are two possibilities – appointing a replacement for the remainder of the term or holding a special election to fill the position until the next formal election. A suggestion was made to contact Joe Zobkiw, WA2UZO, (the webmaster prior to Tim's election) to see if he would temporarily serve as webmaster. Andy NI4S will talk with Joe and a decision on making an appointment or holding a special election would be made once Joe's decision is known.

Dick W8HYD reported that Bruce Buck's (KC4UQN) extension cord was lost after the February general meeting. He will check with the church staff to see if the cord was collected by them. If not, he will purchase a replacement for Bruce on behalf of the club.

Andy NI4S reported that he has the rules and regulations drafted for the RARS HF challenge and will present them at next month's general meeting.

General Comments

Dick KD4ISC reported there were 14 hams that helped with the March 5 Odyssey of the Mind Tournament. The Odyssey officials are looking forward to our help with next year's event and have already asked us to consider helping out with the 2007 state tournament that will be held in Chapel Hill. Dick also asked if a memorial statement could be included in the hamfest program for Bob Corns K4MC. Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, is handling the programs and should be including a memorial statement for Bob and other members who became silent keys since the last hamfest.

Andy NI4S reported the DFMA is pursuing funding of a communications van. They may be seeking comments and letters of support from other local clubs.

Jim K4FIJ sought advice from the group concerning the requirements for volunteers helping out with admissions (ticket sales) for the hamfest.

Dick W8HYD reported that he still needs help for the QBH, QLF and homebrew contest events that will be held during the hamfest.

Selene KG4RMT expressed her thanks to the awards committee for her recognition and for the program at the March general meeting.

Hank K4HM passed along his thanks for his plague recognizing his service as hamfest chairman. He did express concern over the lack of an end of service date. The Board hopes it will be a while before an end date needs to be inscribed. Hank also provided some follow up discussion about dealing with visitors at our meetings.

Chuck K4HF, suggested that the awards for the Rosewood and R&K Electronics vendors be presented in person at the hamfest social. The group liked this idea and Dick W8HYD agreed to hold on to these certificates until the hamfest.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.

Submitted by Dick Orander, KD4ISC, Secretary

Minutes of the RARS General Meeting for May 2005

The general meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was conducted on May 3, 2005 at the Forest Hills Baptist Church located on Dixie Trail.

President Andy Peterson, NI4S, called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

Mike Taylor, W3IJD was welcomed as a guest to the meeting.

Rod Gilvey, AB4RG, announced the May 15 Ride for Kids motorcycle event which benefits the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Hams are needed to relay location information about the riders as they travel from Cary to Sanford. The event will run from 9am until 10:30am. Those interested in volunteering should contact Dick Orander, KD4ISC.

Andy, NI4S, reported there are several other public service events taking place over the next few weekends. He encouraged members to visit the hampublicservice.org website for details.

Steve Jenkins, KA8HXX, reported on his radio work with the students of Powell Elementary School. He made a request during the last RARS Board meeting for club sponsorship of a school radio class for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. The Board approved his request. RARS will fund the ARRL bookshelf for the school. Steve is also pursuing additional ARRL grants for equipment. RARS members are encouraged to participate in this project and those wanting more information or to volunteer should contact Steve.

Hank Montgomery, K4HM, provided a RARSfest roundup. The hamfest went well with many good comments received. He thanked all those who worked to make RARSfest a success. A 'Workers' Party is still being organized and will probably take place at Lake Wheeler sometime after July 4.

Andy, NI4S, reminded everyone that Field Day will take place on June 25 and 26. Plans for our club's participation are in the works. Andy provided a brief account of field day to enlighten those who have never participated in this event.

David Crawford, KF4VXJ, advised that ARES involvement in April's Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant drill went well. He reported that there will be a Hazmat drill conducted in late May which may also require radio support. Members were reminded of the weekly ARES net conducted on the 146.88 repeater following the PCTN net. Finally, David encouraged everyone to participate in field day and advised of rule changes that will allow for new bonus points to be scored.

Dick Bitner, W8HYD, provided additional supporting comments for field day. He then advised that plans for a Techni-

cian class are coming together. An alternate training site may be available soon. He asked that members refer those looking for training classes to him so that potential students can be notified once plans are finalized. Dick also asked that members forward their ideas for meeting programs to him for consideration. Let him know what you would like to see and learn or offer as a program. Contact him in person or at ncsol@bellsouth.net.

Andy, NI4S, announced that Jon Kerfoot, KG4ZVT, has been appointed as the new webmaster for RARS.

The floor was then turned over to several members who were asked to introduce themselves and tell about their first field day experiences.

Andy, NI4S, reminded everyone that the RARS HF challenge has begun. He encouraged all to participate. Rules and score sheets are available at the back table and will soon be located on the RARS webpage.

Door prizes were won by: W4VFJ, KG4RMT, AB4RG, KB4RZ, WB4DCM, K4DAW, AG4XR.

Attendance: 32

Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

Dick Orander, KD4ISC
RARS Secretary

PCRN

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RARSFEST SOCIAL 2005



President RARS, Andy NI4S



Art W2JNW awarded 50 years
ARRL membership



Chuck K4HF awarded 50 years ARRL
membership



Dennis W4PWF Roanoke Div Dir ARRL

MS Pooch Walk



Photos by Brian Young - KA9QJT

MS Pooch Walk was held on April 16, 2005



ARRL HQS AWARD

RARS Member Bill McDowell, K4CIA, left, receiving his RARS Charter Member Certificate from RARS VP Dick, W8HYD, while Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL HQs Awards/DXCC Manager looks on. Bill, our resident QSL Card checker for ARRL Operating Awards, was instrumental in RARS obtaining the W4DW call sign.

Photo by Chuck N4HF

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RARSFEST 2005



Floyd K8AC, Angier , Winner 706 MK II G

ARES MEETING APRIL 16, 2005



Bernie Nobles WA4MOK, NC ARRL Section
Emergency Coordinator (SEC)



Jeff Orrock NWS severe weather
meteorologist



Participants at the ARES meeting

The yearly ARES meeting was held on April 16. EC's and AEC's from around the state met at the EOC in Raleigh for discussion and update in the North Carolina Districts. ARES and Skywarn representatives were present.
Photos by David KF4VXJ

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**The Central Carolina
Skywarn Net Meets
Tuesdays at 9:15 pm
on 146.88 Repeater**

www.ccskywarn.net



NEWS

SKYWARN DINNER

May 22, 6:30 Golden Corral, Glenwood Ave., Raleigh.

Jeff Orrock will be attending. New policies are in place. Topic, hurricane season. All are welcome.

The 146.88 repeater has been having some problems. Please go to the backup 145.39 MHz (PL 82.5). The backup to the 145.39 is 444.775 MHz (100.0) to give reports.



Radar class: Tanner KB4TYE, Jim KB4BZ, Bob WX4MMM, Randy KI4BRZ, Virginia NC4VA, Al KC4TMS, (4 not named) Jim K4FIJ, Rick AJ9F, Rob KI4BKE, not shown, John K4JVP

Photo by Denyse K4DAW



Denyse K4DAW,
EC CCSkywarn
with Jeff Orrock,
Chief Severe
Weather Meteorologist
in Raleigh
at the RARSFEST



Byron K4NGJ
& Mark
N4MQU takes a
shift at the
RARSFEST

NEW POLICY

A new policy has been put into place that tones on the 146.88 will be brought up for Central Carolina Skywarn area, which includes counties of: Person, Granville, Vance, Warren, Halifax, Orange, Durham, Franklin, Nash, Edgecombe, Chatham, Wake, Wilson, Lee, Harnett, Johnston, Wayne & Sampson, when a WATCH is issued. We will be watching all 18 counties, not just Wake and the surrounding counties of Wake only. The repeater will be available for normal use and a net control will update the watch every half hour. When a warning is issued, the net will go active and the net will be directed by a net control operator.

Skywarn spotters should be ready to report severe storm reports. Check the Central Carolina Skywarn website (www.ccskywarn.net).

Hail

Dime/penny size $\frac{3}{4}$ " in diameter or larger
Measured wind speeds of GREATER than 58 mph
Damage caused by high winds
Limbs or trees down and their approximate limb or trunk diameter
Any buildings & roof damage you may observe.
Flooding and flash-flooding, where none normally occurs
Rotating wall clouds—hanging down from the cloud base.
Rotating funnel clouds—hanging down from the cloud base.
Tornadoes

RARSFEST 2005



Good crowds at the RARSFEST on April 17, 2005